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# NLG NEWSLETTER

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## FANTASYLAND, HERE WE COME!

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...By David T. Alexander

Here we are in the midst of the NLG's busiest season! The American Numismatic Association Convention will convene in sunny Anaheim, California.

The Guild has enjoyed many ANA conventions in Southern California, starting with our historic founding meeting at the 1968 show in San Diego's El Cortez hotel. Then there was the 1975 convention at the Marriott in Los Angeles, where the late Maurice M. Gould, Col. Grover Criswell and Colin Bruce "did their thing" as unforgettable grass-skirted Hawaiian dancers.

Many of us will recall the suburban charms of San Diego's Town & Country complex, where this writer went on for the first time as NLG Executive Director, following his midnight elevation to the directorship at the Boston ANA. For me it was a show and a half, as I watched the fruition of months of work as Kagin's catalog director

preparing the great 1983 auction sale.

Some of us may not know Anaheim, or perhaps have only heard the name as part of Jack Benny's famed Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad announcement, "Train for... Anaheim... Azusa... and CUC—A—MON—GA!" Rest assured that Anaheim is central to the rich Southern California numismatic territory that stretches from San Bernardino to San Diego. NLG has a lot of members and friends there, including our revered Lee Martin (how's that, Lee?) the real father of the Guild.

Ed Reiter has given us the particulars of our 1995 Bash. We will eliminate surprises by reconnoitering the Bash site well in advance! I hope to meet many of you at our club midway table, manned by NLG notables including our redoubtable Treasurer Kay Lenker. A successful General Chair at the 1983 ANA,

Assistant General Chair of this year's convention, Kay is also one of the 1995 field of candidates for the ANA board. That's tiring even to write!

Come one, come all! We hope to see all of you at the Bash!

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**Editor's note:** *All of us keep hearing of the shortage of qualified young numismatists. The following article is by an 11-year-old New York State numismatist. We have run it with only a few minor changes in order to present the full flavor of the work as written. Thanks to Scott Travers for bringing this contribution to the NLG Newsletter.*

### MS-70: HOW TO PERFECT YOUR CATALOGING SKILLS

By Eric Li Cheung,  
Young Numismatist

The significance of attributing and classifying coins is that it is an organized way of cataloging coins with little or no

*Cont. on page 9*





## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

By Ed Reiter

California, Here We Come!

Yes, NLG members from all parts of the country — and, for that matter, many parts of the world — are packing their bags for the ANA convention in Anaheim. And it won't be long before we get together for our annual symposium and Bash.

As usual, both of our big events will take place on Thursday of convention week — Aug. 17, to be precise.

The symposium is scheduled at 10 a.m. that day in Room A5 at the Anaheim Convention Center. The Bash will get under way at 9:30 p.m. in California Room A at the Hilton Hotel. And you won't want to miss either one.

The theme of this year's symposium is "The Future of the Numismatic Literary Marketplace." Among other things, our panelists will discuss the implications of computer technology and the Information Superhighway for the coin-writing field of tomorrow.

Moderator Scott A. Travers has assembled an intriguing

panel. It will consist of Q. David Bowers, one of the most prolific and perceptive numismatic authors of our time; Margo Russell, the all-time First Lady of numismatic journalism; David T. Alexander, a cataloger and chronicler with extraordinary insight into the broad sweep of numismatic history; and Eric Li Cheung, an 11-year-old prodigy from New York City with remarkable gifts for music, math and computers and a deep, abiding interest in rare coins. Eric, by the way, recently became the youngest Guild member in our history.

After having their minds stimulated at the symposium, NLG members and guests will have their funny bones tickled at the Bash.

Wendell Wolka will serve again as ringmaster ... er, master of ceremonies ... for the Bash, a role he has performed with uncommon skill and zest for half a decade. He'll be ably assisted, of course, by his retinue of "shills," strategically placed to pick up the slack by laughing at any jokes that fall flat. (A verbal virtuoso of Wendell's high caliber really needs no safety net, but the tableful of shills has now become an integral part of his shtick.)

Scott Travers and Q. David Bowers are on the bill again with their question-and-answer routine. Yours truly is preparing yet another parody, with several prospective victims under consideration. And other performers — undoubtedly including some last-minute walk-ons — will supplement the standard satirical offerings.

A very special guest is planning to join us at this year's Bash: Lee Martin, the driving force behind the Guild's formation 27 years ago, has promised that if all goes well, he'll make the trip to Anaheim from his home in Beaumont, Calif., and say a few words that evening. I'm hoping he may bring along a few samples, too, from his marvelous bag of party tricks. Old-timers will recall with pleasure and affection the wry brand of humor that Lee brought to early Bashes with his sight gags, phony gifts and other offbeat gimmicks. Besides being our founder,

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Lee was also our Bash emcee — and, for that matter, our editor as well — during those days of yore.

As some of you are aware, Lee has an aversion to flying — and that, as much as anything, has kept him from attending ANA conventions (and NLG Bashes) in recent years. But this year, with the big show taking place very nearly in his backyard, he can travel there conveniently by car. His attendance at the Bash will make it, I am sure, an unusually memorable event.

We're crossing our fingers that last year's Clemy winner, Elvira Clain-Stefanelli, also will be with us at the Bash. Mrs. Stefanelli had made all the necessary arrangements to attend the convention and Bash, but then she took a nasty fall and suffered a broken hip. She has been recuperating nicely — and when we spoke in mid-July, she told me she was hopeful of traveling to the show. If she is unable to attend, she'll designate a surrogate to announce the name of this year's Clemy winner.

The Clemy, of course, is the highlight of the Bash's second segment — the serious part of the program. But it's far from the only award that deserving Guild members will carry home that evening. Dozens of handsome plaques will be presented to winners in categories covering all the major areas of literary accomplishment in our field. Scott Travers, our jack of all trades (and master of all, as well), is serving again this year as contest coordinator, so it's a foregone conclusion that everything will go smoothly.

Entries in this year's contest were unusually heavy, Scott tells me, so those who emerge victorious will have particular cause for satisfaction and pride.

Tickets for the Bash will be available at the NLG table on the bourse floor, or directly from Kay Lenker or myself. Kay has her capable hands even fuller than usual this year, since she's serving as assistant general chairman for the convention. Nonetheless, she's doing her usual flawless job of handling all the technical details for the Bash — including preparation and dissemination of tickets. The charge remains just \$5 per ticket, and for that you get not only the fun and games plus the award presentations, but also a fistful of munchies. Now, that's something to chew on!

\* \* \*

By the time this Newsletter reaches you, we'll probably know the results of the ANA election. As I pointed out in the last issue, this year's list of candidates included many members of the Guild. In fact, it was possible — and not at all inconceivable — that all nine members of the new ANA Board could be NLG members. At least two were shoo-ins, since Ken Bressett and Anthony Swiatek were running unopposed for president and vice president, respectively.

Our own election, like that of Ken and Tony, took place without a contest. The three incumbents completing their first terms — Dave Alexander, Col. Bill Murray and Scott Travers — were declared to be reelected when no other names were placed in nomination by

the membership. They'll serve for two more years, at which point our bylaws require that they step down.

The current NLG Board has done an outstanding job, but we're always on the lookout for new contributors. Two seats on the Board (those now held by Dave Bowers and Margo Russell) will be up for grabs next year, since the two incumbents will be ineligible to run again — and I hope some willing workers will have their hats ready to toss in the ring at that time.

\* \* \*

Before closing, I'd like to issue a special appeal for editorial contributions to the Newsletter. Our new editor, Dave Alexander, is capable of prodigious productivity, as I have observed firsthand in a close working relationship spanning many years. However, the Newsletter isn't meant to be a one-man show: We want it to reflect the talents, views and interests of all our membership. So why not sit down at your old Smith-Corona or new IBM-compatible and crank out an article for an upcoming issue. We don't pay a cent, but the psychic income is enormous; after all, your words will be read by several hundred of the most important journalists, scholars and other literary figures in all of numismatics.

Incidentally, we do give an award each year to the best writer in the NLG Newsletter. Think how meaningful that plaque would look on your mantel or office wall!

Newsletter articles and other correspondence should



be sent to David T. Alexander,  
Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box  
780, Mahopac, N.Y. 10541.

\* \* \*

Two other quick reminders:

We still have a few examples of the one-ounce, .999- fine silver medal issued by the Guild two years ago for our 25th anniversary. This can be obtained for \$25 postpaid. As a bonus, anyone ordering the medal will receive, at no additional cost, a copy of "NLG: A 25-Year History," the 50- page booklet written by David T. Alexander. The booklet can be purchased separately for \$5 postpaid. Orders should be sent to Ed Reiter, 12 Abbington Ter., Glen Rock, N.J. 07452. For medal orders going to overseas addresses, there is an added charge of \$2.50 per order for postage.

We are now offering a Life Membership category. The fee is \$250, and this covers not only the membership itself but also a silver anniversary medal, an NLG history booklet and a highly attractive certificate suitable for framing and display. To apply, write to me at the address given previously or call me at (201) 612-0482.

See you in sunny California!



## Letter to Congress

December 5, 1994

Kristen Alix  
Legislative Assistant, Office of  
Congressman Steve Buyer  
1419 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms Alix:

Enclosed with this letter you will find a proposal to raise funds, by an effective use of the monetary system, for

reduction of the national debt. This would be done through seigniorage on coinage, a source of federal revenue since 1793. The ideas proposed here will raise additional funds in a manner that will cause the least problems of any federal tax. Seigniorage has the smallest ratio of fixed costs to dollars collected of any tax now on the books. The cost of collecting this tax will be under one percent. (There is of course considerable seigniorage going to the Treasury at present from regular coinage.)

This is not a new tax, having been used by governments for

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nearly twenty-six centuries, but merely the proper use of an old one. Not only will it raise funds to help pay off the national debt, it is a purely voluntary action that will be very popular with millions of people because of the way in which it is collected. How many other taxes can be said to be truly popular with the electorate?

The amount to be raised cannot be estimated with precision, as this can be determined only by actual practice, but it is believed that the issuance of circulating commemorative coins and bank notes will result, within two years, in several hundred million dollars annually. (This is being done in other countries, though not as systematically as is suggested here.)

Although everyone I have spoken to on this proposal agrees that it will produce large sums, it is very important to note that the government would under no circumstances lose money. A related suggestion, to abolish portraits on the coinage and replace them with allegorical figures of Liberty, will also create considerable amounts of income, possibly in excess of that for commemorative issues. The enclosed proposal is not in finished form, as it will be subject to debate and change if there is legislative interest. One of the key points is the ban on surcharged coins, which ought to go into effect as soon as possible. It would also be a good idea to repeal the enabling legislation for those surcharged coins on which the Mint has not yet commenced work. I find that many non-collectors do not understand to

what extent the average person will participate in this program. To such people, I simply ask that if the mints issued a special half dollar for Indiana, would they save a dozen or more for themselves, children, or grandchildren. The answer is of course yes, along with a sudden understanding of the proposal. The Canadian experiment of issuing a special quarter dollar for each province was quite successful and raised considerable sums of money.

Although not mentioned in the outline, I would also suggest very strongly that no gold coins of any kind be issued. In fact, no coin should be struck in this country which would not circulate in the marketplace at its face value. (Proof and bullion coins for collectors are obvious exceptions to this suggestion.) The following positive benefits will result from the implementation of this program:

1. Several hundred million dollars per year raised against the national debt. (From the commemoratives, not new devices on circulating coinage which may produce even more money.)

2. Commemoration of historical people and events will create an increased awareness of our heritage. This is especially important among teenagers.

3. Coins will be sold abroad, bringing money into this country. In addition our ideals would be spread abroad at their expense, not ours.

4. Additional small numismatic businesses and employment will be created, produc-

ing further tax revenue.

5. Because the tax is voluntary, there will be little or no public complaint.

6. The numismatic press, which would reach several hundred thousand people, would strongly support this kind of program.

Several points are left deliberately vague, including:

1. The exact denominations to be used, including a dollar coin.

2. Precisely how the commission will function.

3. Salaries of the executive director and assistants and whether the commission ought to receive compensation beyond expenses.

4. How much should go to the Smithsonian National Numismatic Collection.

5. How the veto power by Congress would work

6. How the artwork would be judged for winners.

7. The necessary legal changes to implement this proposal.

There is presently a proposal before Congress to abolish the paper dollar and replace it with a dollar coin. In the interest of maximum advantage to the Treasury, the paper dollar ought not to be abolished insofar as commemoratives are concerned~although this might be done for general usage. The use of a rare form for the dollar (assuming a circulating dollar coin) would create a strong



*Congress Cont. from page 5*

collector demand. Also enclosed are copies of editorials from the major numismatic publications dealing with U.S. coins, COINage, Coins, Coin World, and Numismatic News. It should be noted that these editorials are but the tip of the iceberg and one could easily send several times this number. In these few that I send, it will be easy to sense the growing sense of anger by collectors at their outrageous treatment at the hands of Congress and special interests. In addition, I have contacted key people at each publishing house and asked them to write you directly concerning their views on the enclosed project. I can hardly expect agreement on all points, but I think there will be broad acceptance of the enclosed ideas.

With minor exceptions, the proposed commemorative program is hardly original with the undersigned. All that has been done is draw together a number of suggestions into a more or less cohesive whole. Opposition to this plan will come primarily from Senators and Representatives with close ties to special interests wanting commemorative coin profits for private use. One hopes, however, that the recent voter demand for an end to special interests will prove a catalyst for reform. The country, as a result, will obtain much-needed funds at little political risk. A few hundred million dollars per year is not a great amount in terms of the current debt, but it is certainly a step in the right direction.

If the ideas presented here are indeed accepted in principle by

Congress, I would suggest that the first step be to ban surcharged coins and then implement the commemorative program. After the latter is proven a profitable undertaking, then it will be safe to eliminate the portraits from the circulating coinage for maximum benefit to the Treasury.

As there are bound to be fresh commemorative proposals introduced at the next session of Congress, I would hope that key ideas from the enclosed editorials be read on the floor at the appropriate time so that legislators might know of the disgust felt by collectors over their treatment by Congress.

The undersigned has been a collector for 45 years and has been doing research since the late 1950s (at the National Archives, museums, and libraries) on various facets of American numismatics. Nearly 500 published articles and several books have resulted from this work.

I will be pleased to answer any questions that might arise from this proposal and can be reached at (219) 753-0262. The others who send comments to you will, I am certain, be equally helpful, especially if hearings should be held. The enclosed proposals will work; it is simply a matter of how important the additional funds would be to the Treasury and the national debt. There would also be a great service to numismatics as a byproduct.

Sincerely

R.W. Julian

## *Book Review*

*By David T. Alexander*

WORLD WAR II  
REMEMBERED. HISTORY IN  
YOUR HANDS,  
A NUMISMATIC STUDY

By C. Frederick Schwan  
and Joseph E. Boling.

BNR Press, Port Clinton, Ohio,  
1995. 864 pages, hard cover

This massive book can only be called a tour de force of solid accomplishment, an amazingly complete catalog which includes paper money, coins, medals and decorations, bonds, prisoner of war money, rationing coupons, propaganda posters and every other related collectible of the greatest war in history.

This volume grows out of the authors' earlier trail-blazing efforts in the field of World War II paper money. The new title has made a quantum jump beyond its forebear, however, and is a must for any collector seeking the most up-to-date information of one or all of the categories covered.

The sheer scope of the work is reflected in a table of contents that requires four full pages. The listings follow a fascinating foreword by a man whose name is known to virtually all collectors, who began his war service as a lowly draftee assigned to the Coast Artillery, Chester L. Krause. Chet's memory of receiving yellow-seal notes as he boarded ship at a Manhattan pier is one of the many anecdotes that give younger readers that invaluable "you are there" feeling about the world war.



The book is divided into Allied nations (including the United States), neutral nations, Axis powers, Axis-occupied or occupied governments. Complexities of war and shifting alignments made the compilers' task far more complex than this simple breakdown might suggest. Italy is a case in point.

Starting the war as a key partner in the Axis, possessing an overseas colonial empire, Italy and her Fascist Duce, Benito Mussolini, were soon eclipsed by Adolf Hitler in leadership of the war.

Italy attempted to abandon the German alliance after King Victor Emanuel III brought about the deposition of Mussolini. Becoming a co-belligerent and a major battleground, Italy ended the war in ruins.

The Schwan-Boling listing of Italian material is therefore found under both the Axis and Allies. Under Axis are issues of Italy itself, followed by occupation currency prepared for Greece, the Ionian Islands and (rather prematurely!) Egypt and the Sudan. Next are the Dodecanese Islands and Italian East Africa, ending with Mussolini's ill-fated Italian Social Republic.

Listed under the Allies are an array of issues unknown to most collectors, notably the rare "Vaglia stampigliate," bearer checks of provincial or local banks made legal tender as emergency money. Notes of partisan units, the Communist Party and other political bodies are included in detail along with overprints on national paper notes.

German collectibles are also

divided under Axis, 28 pages, and Joint issues/Occupied Germany, 27 pages. This outstanding effort conducts the reader through German financial-war history from the beginnings of the Nazi regime through catastrophic defeat and the birth of the Deutsche Mark under the Bank Deutscher Laender in 1948. This listing of interhilfswerke, Tax Payment Notes, and Reichskonversionskasse paper should open a new field for many collectors.

Allied Military Currency appears under Joint Issues and includes notes for Italy, France, Germany and Japan. The authors' background history includes the long hushed-up scandal resulting from giving the glass plates of the German issues to the Soviet Union, which used them to disrupt

*Cont. on page 8*



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(published weekly - ave. 80 pgs.)



Allied plans for the orderly administration of all occupied Germany. As fascinating are the examples of anti-Allied propaganda printed in France and Italy denouncing these "No Guarantee, No Signature, No Bank" notes.

Japan and her far-flung conquests receive the most thorough treatment ever published in the English language. From Manchukuo to Burma, this book chronicles a full roster of notes, circulating and pattern coins, medals and decorations, as well as colorful propaganda materials, some of which will be new even to advanced collectors.

The excellence of the Japanese section can be attributed to the decades of study,

travel and research of Joe Boling, one of the few Americans ever to study in what was once the Imperial War College.

The United States listing owes much to Fred Schwan and includes a complete catalog of Military Payment Certificates, a fascinating exploration of U.S. currency used as anti-Allied propaganda, prisoner of war items, a roster of state and local service medals, postwar commemoratives that relate to the war.

The Soviet Union, and scores of smaller issuers from Albania to Yugoslavia, receive similar treatment. The multi-fold issues of India include many items that few collectors have ever guessed existed from such princely states as Jodhpur and Hyderabad.

In a work of this scope, there will be areas that the specialist would wish had been handled differently. Coins, notes and medals of independent Slovakia and the medals of Jose Paciano Laurel's wartime Republic of the Philippines are cases in point, for which more up-to-date research has been published and is available.

These are quibbles, however, given the overall standard of achievement the compilers have achieved. "World War II Remembered" is available from book and coin dealers who handle the quality line of titles published by BNR Press. Here is a book that is a one-volume encyclopedia of the war and which should be on every serious numismatist's bookshelf.

## UK £2 Peace Coin At Norfolk, Va., Naval Museum

NLG member Michael Sedgwick, who serves as spokesman for the British Royal Mint in North America, presented a special commemorative plaque featuring an 8-inch electrotype of the 1995 United Kingdom £2 coin marking the end of World War II during the recent NATO Festival Airshow at Norfolk, Va. Capt. Dan Franken, Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station, Norfolk, received the plaque on behalf of American service men and women who served during World War II. The plaque will hang at the Hampton Roads Naval Museum, in Norfolk.



Michael Sedgwick (left) displays the plaque with Festival Queen Rebecca Temperley from Norfolk, England, and Capt. Dan Franken.

The United Kingdom £2 commemorative coin features the "Dove of Peace" and the words of Winston Churchill - "In Peace, Goodwill." The plaque bears an enlarged replica of the coin with the inscription: In grateful remembrance of those Americans who bravely served

during World War II. Says Sedgwick: "It was a great thrill to be able to join my personal thank you with the Royal Mint tribute and to be a small part of the event. We in Britain owe a great deal to the Americans who helped defeat Hitler's Nazi Germany."



effort. Collectors attribute their coins to keep them on their toes and/or just out of their own interest. The collector/investor looks for the rare varieties to buy and sell, but first has to figure out the variety before determining the rarity.

To get an overview of all the major and some minor varieties, I suggest you use the Walter Breen "Complete Encyclopedia of United States Coins." Unlike some other books that go deeper into the topic of attribution, this gives you an idea of all the types, setting you off on a good start. Other references can later be used for a more direct view of attributing individual coins. The actual key to attributing coins is knowing how to use these guides. Once you learn

how to use them, you can find shortcuts to attributing any specific variety. With frequent referrals, you will soon know how to attribute coins off the top of your head.

Whether you are totally unfamiliar with American coins beyond pocket change, or you are an advanced specialist, you can identify any coin in series covered by these guides. When you refer to them, you can either use plates, read the descriptions or use dichotomous keys, but all are shortcuts to attribution.

First, let me explain the significance of the plates. If you don't want to bother with the dichotomous keys or don't want to strain your eyes with reading, you can just compare your specimen with the plates and pictures. Plates are found

in almost every attribution reference, and are simple to use. The procedures are pretty straightforward, and you just have to adjust your vision to comparing and spotting minor details.

If you are unable to attribute your specimens using the plates, you may read the descriptions, following the text in any attribution guide. The descriptions don't give you a summary of the variety, but give you every single detail. Some descriptions are rather hard to follow, because they may not be in any specific order. Unlike the dichotomous keys, there are no indentations in the descriptions, giving you a hard time looking for the prime details. Also you can't just look at one detail; you have to read the entire passage before giving the final

*Cont. on page 10*

*We thank the members of NLG whose articles have enriched COINage magazine since 1964.*

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description. Reading these thorough passages requires a lot of time and patience.

Our last alternative would be the dichotomous keys. Used frequently in Dr. William H. Sheldon's "Penny Whimsy," dichotomous keys eventually lead you to the variety by process of elimination. Dichotomous keys lead you through the attribution process by presenting a series of paired choices. First, locate the date in the key. In the first column, you will see the prime details. If there is more than one variety, you eliminate the first prime detail, leaving you with indented figures. The explanations are pretty straightforward and you just have to find the secondary details and third class after you have identified the primes.

Just to clear up your confusions, let's take the 1796 high 6 quarter, a single-year, Small Eagle reverse type. Let's see, is it a high 6 or a low 6? Well, it's a high 6, and that leads us to Browning-2. These coins' varieties take their names from Ard W. Browning, who first attributed early American quarters.

Having learned how to use the guides, you can specialize in a single topic, but still have a chance to attribute many denominations. Other important attribution books covering individual series and denominations were written by Bolender, Bowers, Breen, Browning, Cohen, Crosby, Overton, Sheldon, Valentine, or have been updated by students of the series such as Bob Grellman or Jules Reiver.

This passage was on shortcuts to attribution for those who are making their initial efforts at attributing coins by die variety. Remember, you cannot memorize these books in their entirety, but you can pick the method with which you are most comfortable. Go to it, and as the late Walter Breen used to say, "Happy hunting!"



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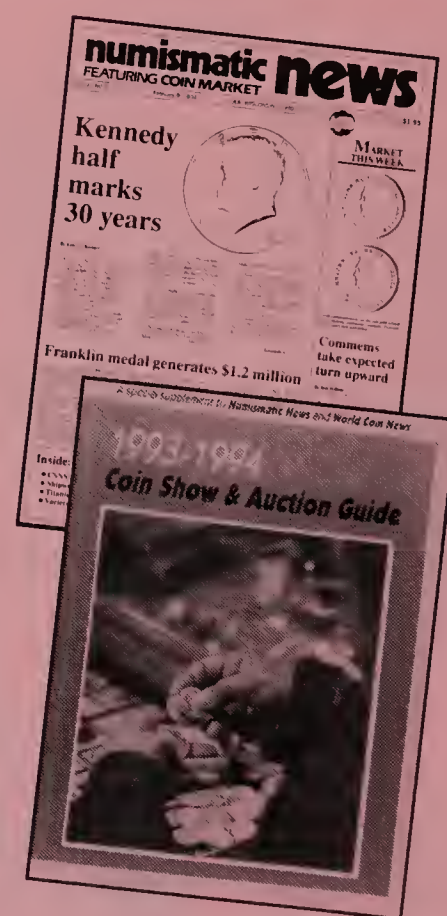
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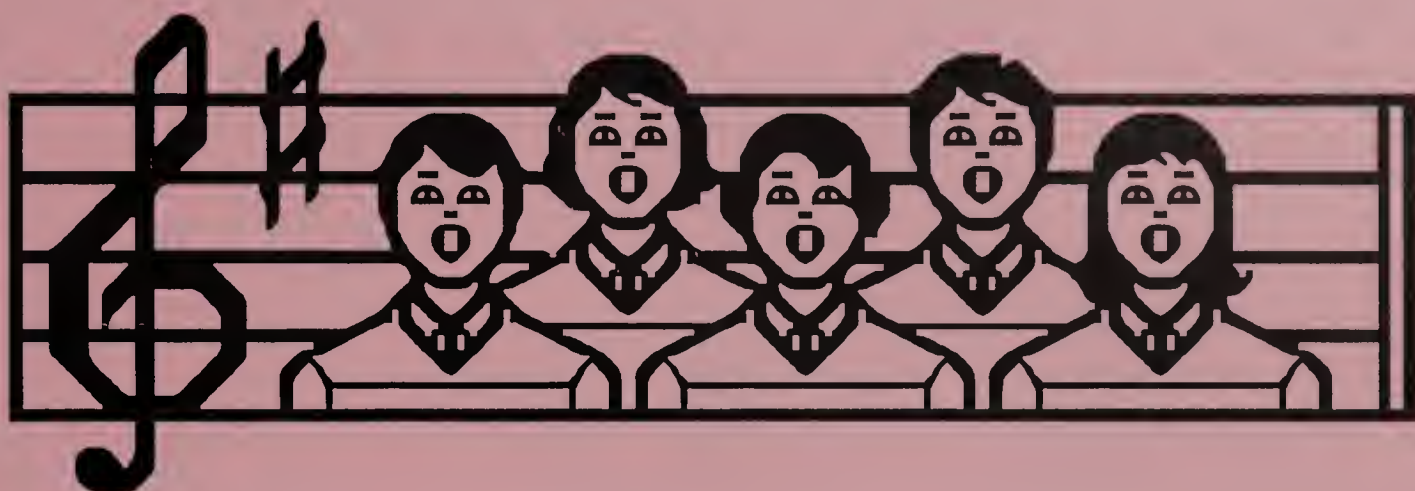
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# ACHIEVING PARODY: PART 5

By Ed Reiter



It's deja vu all over again!

For the second time in the Nineties, our NLG Bash is taking place this year in the shadow of Fantasyland. No, I don't mean the environs of Colorado Springs; I'm speaking of our proximity to Walt Disney's Magic Kingdom.

In 1992, when the ANA convened in Orlando, Bashgoers were regaled with musical selections based upon Disney songs. Now that we're moving from Walt Disney World to the original Disneyland, you can be sure that this year's Bash will have its share of Disneyana, too. (Or perhaps, in keeping with the host city's cutesy practice, I should make that Disney-ANA!)

To help put you in the mood, I've decided to reprise the parody I performed at the '92 Bash in Orlando.

As always, I'll preface the paeon (and the pain) with a few words of explanation: At each of our Bashes since 1984, the emcee has reluctantly summoned me to the micro-

phone to provide "entertainment" in the form of a parody set to the tune of a well-known piece of music.

A few issues back, I volunteered the lyrics for one of these parodies as a space-filler for the Newsletter. Overwhelming response (from two readers) prompted us to run a second parody in the next issue.

By now, this has become a regular (if not exactly resoundingly popular) feature: This marks the fifth installment. On the positive side, I'm running out of parodies to reprise!

At the time of our Bash in Orlando, the Federal Trade Commission was busily poking its bureaucratic head under the tent of organized numismatics. And one of its busiest operatives was a lawyer named Phoebe Morse.

Without a doubt, our market had (and still has) its share of abuses. But some of us felt that the FTC in general, and Phoebe Morse in particular, had grown just a bit overzealous — and made the market's tailspin even worse.

Against this backdrop, I feted Ms. Morse by likening her to Walt Disney's most famous cartoon character: the one and only Mickey Mouse. And I set it to the music of the well-known theme song from "The Mickey Mouse Club" on TV.

Here, then, is my tribute to Phoebe Morse:

*Who's the one that helps to keep  
our hobby problem-free?*

*P-H-O-E-B-E M-O-R-S-E.*

*Phoebe Morse, Phoebe Morse,  
She controls us by persuasion  
or by force.*

*Thanks to her, collectors now  
take up embroidery.*

*P-H-O-E-B-E M-O-R-S-E.*

*Phoebe Morse, Phoebe Morse,  
She has helped keep down  
attendance at the bourse.*

*Soon we'll have a czar  
appointed by the FTC:*

*P-H-O-E-B-E M-O-U-S-E.*

*M-I-C-K-E-Y M-O-R-S-E.*





## BASH-ful Moments

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### NLG NEWSLETTER

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